

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 8-10 and 18-19 are pending in present application upon entry of the foregoing Amendment. By this Amendment, claims 1, 8, 9, 10, and 19 are amended; and claim 17 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In view of the following Remarks, allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Telephonic Interview

Applicant thanks Examiner Mottola for granting Applicant's representative a telephonic interview on August 20, 2003. During the interview, Applicant's representative discussed the differences between a quarter wave transformer/combiner integrated circuit and a quarter wave transmission line.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as allegedly not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Examiner objected to the drawings for not illustrating the FET embodiment of claim 3 and the integrated circuit embodiment of claim 17. With regard to the objection corresponding to the FET embodiment of claim 3, Applicant has previously amended Figure 1 of the drawings in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) which states "conventional features disclosed in the description and claims, where their detailed illustration is not essential for a proper understanding of the invention, should be illustrated in the drawing in the form of a graphical drawing symbol or a labeled representation (e.g., a labeled rectangular box)." Applicant maintains that the representation of transistors 114 and 122 as labeled rectangular boxes in amended Figure 1 fully complies with the drawing requirements as the detailed illustration of bipolar junction transistors and field effect transistors is not essential for a proper understanding of the invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this objection to the drawings.

With regard to the objection corresponding to the integrated circuit embodiment of claim 17, Applicant has canceled claim 17 solely for purposes of expediting

prosecution of this matter and without admitting that illustration of these features are essential for a proper understanding of the invention. Applicant respectfully submits that this objection is moot.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner has rejected claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,262,629 to Stengel *et al.* ("Stengel"). Applicant has amended claim 19 to clarify that the quarter wave transformer/combiner circuit is an integrated circuit as opposed to a quarter wave element (*i.e.*, transmission line) as disclosed in Stengel. Thus, for at least this reason, claim 19 is patentable over Stengel. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 19 based on Stengel.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 10 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,757,229 to Mitzlaff ("Mitzlaff"). Applicant has amended claims 1 and 10 to clarify that the quarter wave transformer/combiner circuit is an integrated circuit as opposed to a quarter wave transmission line as taught by Mitzlaff. Thus, for at least this reason, claims 1 and 10 are patentable over Mitzlaff. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection of claims 1 and 10.

Claims 2, 3, 9, and 18 depend from and add additional features to claim 1. As such, Applicant submits that these claims are patentable over Mitzlaff for at least the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection of these claims.

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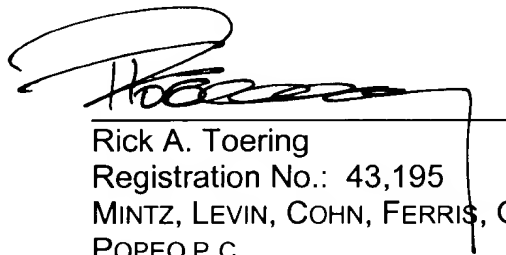
Reply and Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Conclusion

Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Dated: August 20, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick A. Toering", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "R".

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